

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 280543

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: HOLIDAY MESSAGE

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

DEAR JIM:

1. THIS HAS BEEN QUITE A YEAR, AND AS IT DRAWS TO A CLOSE I WOULD LIKE TO SEND TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF BEST WISHES AND THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

2. SAUDI ARABIA HAS OF COURSE BEEN AT CENTER STAGE, AND I APPRECIATE THE OUTSTANDING WAY IN WHICH YOU HANDLED THE DIFFICULT PERIOD OF THE OIL EMBARGO, THE COMPLEX AND FAST BREAKING DEVELOPMENTS IN OIL OVER THE YEAR, AS WELL AS THE DEEPENING AND EXPANSION OF OUR RELATIONS THROUGH THE JOINT COMMISSIONS, TO SAY NOTHING OF THE SECRETARY'S MANY VISITS AND THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT NIXON.

3. IT HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY YEAR, AND I AM SURE THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES--AS THE UMPTEENTH VIP ARRIVED, RELYING TOTALLY ON THE EMBASSY--WHEN YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED WHETHER THE EMBASSY WAS NOT BEING CONFUSED WITH AMERICAN EXPRESS. I HOPE THE HAPPY CONVERGENCE OF OUR AND THE SAUDI HOLIDAYS GIVES YOU ALL SOME MUCH DESERVED REPOSE.

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1975 WILL NO DOUBT BE AS MOMENTOUS AS THE PAST YEAR, AND

IT IS HEARTENING TO KNOW THAT WE CAN COUNT ON THE

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AND PROFESSIONALISM OF YOU AND
YOUR STAFF.

4. BETTY AND MOTHER JOIN ME IN SENDING THE WARMEST
BEST WISHES TO MARNIE AND YOU. SINCERELY, ALFRED L.
ATHERTON, JR. KISSINGER

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